

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for allowing concept based information searching, comprising the
2 steps of:
3 (a) collecting textual information utilizing a network;
4 (b) parsing the textual information for creating topic specific information
5 packets;
6 (c) storing the information packets in an information cache;
7 (d) receiving a query from a user;
8 (e) parsing the user query and comparing the parsed user query with the
9 information packets in the information cache to locate matching information
10 packets; and
11 (f) displaying the matching information packets to a user.
- 1 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein query is converted into an internal
2 query form.
- 1 3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the user inputs the query in natural
2 language.
- 1 4. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of executing a
2 network search, performing a search of information sources responsive to the
3 user query, and outputting information matching the user query to the user if
4 the user query is not understood.
- 1 5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the formatted information includes a
2 hyperlink to the original source of the textual information.
- 1 6. A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for allowing
2 concept based information searching, comprising:

09613235-071000

- 1 10. A computer program as recited in claim 6, wherein the formatted information
2 includes a hyperlink to the original source of the textual information.

- 1 11. A system embodied on a computer readable medium for allowing concept
2 based information searching, comprising:
3 (a) logic that collects textual information utilizing a network;
4 (b) logic that parses the textual information for creating topic specific
5 information packets;
6 (c) logic that stores the information packets in an information cache;
7 (d) logic that receives a query from a user;
8 (e) logic that parses the user query and compares the parsed user query with the
9 information packets in the information cache to locate matching information
10 packets; and
11 (f) logic that displays the matching information packets to a user.
- 1 12. A system as recited in claim 11, wherein query is converted into an internal
2 query form.
- 1 13. A system as recited in claim 11, wherein the user inputs the query in natural
2 language.
- 1 14. A system as recited in claim 11, further comprising logic that executes a
2 network search, logic that performs a search of information sources utilizing
3 the user query, and logic that outputs information matching the user query to
4 the user if the user query is not understood.
- 1 15. A system as recited in claim 11, wherein the formatted information includes
2 a hyperlink to the original source of the textual information.

09613335-071000